

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 and several dependent claims to clarify the intention of those claims as being computer-implemented methods. In addition, independent claims 1, 10 and 19 have been amended to clarify how each claim as a whole distinguishes from the references applied in the Office Action. No new matter is added with these amendments. For the reasons described below, the present application is now in condition for allowance and such disposition is earnestly requested.

The Rejection of Claims 1-5, 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-5, 7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being unpatentable as allegedly being "mere abstractions." Applicants respectfully disagree that such claims were improper. They were method claims that recited two steps and thus clearly fell within the scope of the type of claim that are permissible under section 101. Nevertheless, it appears that the Office's objection to those claims is in the fact that they do not recite a "computer-implemented method." For clarification only, therefore, Applicants have changed the word "process" to "computer-implemented method." The rejection under section 101 should thus be withdrawn.

The Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) and § 103(a) over McDonough et al.

Claims 1-5, 8-14, 17-23 and 26-27 stand rejected under section 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,115,693 to McDonough et al. ("McDonough"). In addition, claims 6-7, 15-16 and 24-25 stand rejected under section 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over McDonough alone in view of alleged knowledge of those in the art. Applicants respectfully disagree with the propriety of these rejections because it appears that the Office Action was based on a misunderstanding of the claims.

In an effort to clarify the misunderstanding, several terms in the claims have been elucidated and additional clarifying language has been added. First, the claims now recite that the system is a “business intelligence reporting system that generates business intelligence reports based on requests submitted to perform analysis of data contained in a database.” In addition, each independent claim has been amended to recite that the statistic or data is “related to the performance operation of the reporting system while the reporting system is operating.”

These clarifications clearly distinguish the claims as a whole from McDonough. McDonough does not disclose a method, system or medium comprising code thereon for capturing at least one statistic or data regarding performance operation of a business intelligence reporting system that generates business intelligence reports based on requests submitted to perform analysis of data contained in a database. Moreover, McDonough does not disclose or suggest providing a step or module that captures a statistic or data that is “related to the performance operation of the reporting system while the reporting system is operating.”

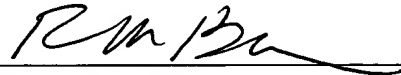
McDonough itself is a system that generates data about customer experiences, not the performance operations of a business intelligence reporting system that generates business intelligence reports. Accordingly, the rejections based on McDonough are improper and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that this application and all pending claims are in condition for allowance and such disposition is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference or interview would advance prosecution of this application in any manner, the undersigned stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

It is believed that no additional fees are due in connection with filing this amendment. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to treat any current or future reply, requiring a petition for an extension of time for its timely submission as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. Applicants also authorize the Commissioner to charge any additional fees to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,



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**APPENDIX A - CLAIMS AFTER AMENDMENT (FOR EXAMINER'S
CONVENIENCE)**

1. A computer-implemented method for capturing at least one statistic or data regarding performance operation of a business intelligence reporting system that generates business intelligence reports based on requests submitted to perform analysis of data contained in a database, the process comprising the steps of:

gathering at least one statistic or data related to the performance operation of the reporting system while the reporting system is operating; and

generating at least one output based on the gathered at least one statistic or data.

2. The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing the output to an end user.

3. The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of storing the at least one gathered statistic or data in a database accessible by the reporting system for generating reports utilizing the gathered statistic or data.

4. The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing the output to an end user in real-time, enabling the end user to analyze the reporting system in real-time.

5. The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of analyzing the output, where analyzing the output comprises using at least one of:

- a) a decision support technique; and
- b) a decision support software.

6. The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, where the at least one statistic or data is related to at least one of:

- a) metadata usage;
- b) server data;
- c) concurrency data;
- d) overall system usage;
- e) individual user activity;
- f) report usage data;
- g) report definition data;
- h) standard query language data;
- i) object usage data; and
- j) database usage data.

7. The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of allocating costs of report system usage to a user of the reporting system based on the at least one output.

8. The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, wherein the reporting system is an OLAP system.

9. The computer-implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of tuning the reporting system based on the at least one output.

10. A system for capturing at least one statistic or data regarding performance operation of a business intelligence report system that generates business intelligence reports based on requests submitted to perform analysis of data contained in a database, the system comprising:

gathering means for gathering at least one statistic or data related to the operation of the reporting system while the reporting system is operating; and

generating means for generating at least one output based on the gathered at least one statistic or data.

11. The system according to claim 10, further comprising transmission means for providing the output to an end user.

12. The system according to claim 10, further comprising storage means for storing the at least one gathered statistic or data in a database accessible by the reporting system for generating reports utilizing the gathered statistic or data.

13. The system according to claim 10, further comprising transmission means for providing the output to an end user in real-time, enabling the end user to analyze the reporting system in real-time.

14. The system according to claim 10, further comprising processor means for analyzing the output, where analyzing the output comprises using at least one of:

- a) a decision support technique; and
- b) a decision support software.

15. The system according to claim 10, where the at least one statistic or data is related to at least one of:

- a) metadata usage;
- b) server data;
- c) concurrency data;
- d) overall system usage;

- e) individual user activity;
- f) report usage data;
- g) report definition data;
- h) standard query language data;
- i) object usage data; and
- j) database usage data.

16. The system according to claim 10, further comprising means for allocating costs of reporting system usage to a user of the reporting system based on the at least one output.

17. The system according to claim 10, wherein the reporting system is an OLAP system.

18. The system according to claim 10, further comprising the step of tuning the reporting system based on the at least one output.

19. A medium storing code for causing a processor to capture at least one statistic or data regarding performance operation of a business intelligence reporting system that generates business intelligence reports based on requests submitted to perform analysis of data contained in a database, the medium comprising:

code for causing a processor to gather at least one statistic or data related to the operation of the reporting system while the reporting system is operating; and

code for causing a processor to generate at least one output based on the gathered at least one statistic or data.

20. The medium according to claim 19, further comprising code for causing a processor to provide the output to an end user.

21. The medium according to claim 19, further comprising code for causing the processor to store the at least one gathered statistic or data in a database accessible by the reporting system for generating reports utilizing the gathered statistic or data.

22. The medium according to claim 19, further comprising code for causing the processor to provide the output to an end user in real-time, enabling the end user to analyze the reporting system in real-time.

23. The medium according to claim 19, further comprising code for causing the processor to analyze the output, where analyzing the output comprises using at least one of:

- a) a decision support technique; and
- b) a decision support software.

24. The medium according to claim 19, where the at least one statistic or data is related to at least one of:

- a) metadata usage;
- b) server data;
- c) concurrency data;
- d) overall system usage;
- e) individual user activity;
- f) report usage data;
- g) report definition data;
- h) standard query language data;
- i) object usage data; and
- j) database usage data.

25. The medium according to claim 19, further comprising code for causing the processor to allocate costs of reporting system usage to a user of the reporting system based on the at least one output.

26. The medium according to claim 19, wherein the reporting system is an OLAP system.

27. The medium according to claim 19, further comprising code for causing the processor to tune the reporting system based on the at least one output.